

[21 March, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) Delhi Police have registered two FIRs against M/s Perutek Services Ltd. on receipt of complaints that the complainants had been cheated of their investments in the said Company. Three of the accused persons including the Chairman and 2 Directors of the Company were arrested in the case. During the Course of investigation Delhi Police identified a number of bank deposits and immovable properties. These bank deposits have been frozen and original sale deeds of immovable properties have been seized. The accused persons have been granted conditional bail by the Delhi High Court with the directions that they would sell their properties and deposit the proceeds with the Registrar of Delhi High Court. The accused persons have so far deposited Rs. 26 lakhs with the Registrar of Delhi High Court. The matter is listed for hearing on 10th April, 2001, however, as of now the Delhi High Court have not issued any directions regarding the mode of repayment of money to the investors.

Increase in the cost of power production due to hike in coal prices

† *375. DR. D. MASTHAN: SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cost of power production has increased due to recent hike in the coal prices;

(b) if so, the assessment with regard to the increase in cost of power production due to this hike of the coal prices; and

(c) the average ash content in the coal used for power production?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a)

to (c) The cost of power production in coal based power stations is directly linked to the cost of the coal, as coal is a major input, which determines the cost of production of power. The prices of coal produced by the subsidiaries of Coal India Limited have been increased with effect from 1.2.2001, thereby increasing the cost of power production by 3—6 paise per unit, depending upon the grade

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of coal, heat value, calorific value and the ash content, etc. The average ash content in coal used for power generation is about 40%.

Discontinuation of the market development assistance scheme for handloom weavers in A.P.

*376. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have discontinued the Market Development Assistance Scheme for the handloom weavers of Andhra Pradesh resulting in widespread resentment amongst the weavers of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures Government propose to take to save the interest of the handloom weavers of the State?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) to (c) The Market Development Assistance Scheme has been discontinued throughout the country w.e.f. 1.4.2000. However keeping in view the need to support the marketing of handloom goods this Scheme has been incorporated in a modified form as Marketing Incentive in the comprehensive developmental Scheme namely, Deendayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana being operated by the Government from 1st April, 2000. Marketing Incentive supports marketing efforts of the handloom agencies through financial assistance.

Marketing Incentive aims at providing financial assistance to handloom weavers to develop marketing infrastructure and links both at micro and macro levels.

The Government has received proposals from the State Government under the MDA Scheme and Marketing Incentive component of Deendayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana in the current year. However, these could not be sanctioned due to the